

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A self-locking strap assembly, comprising:
  - a buckle having an outer concave surface and a passageway;
  - a strap secured to the buckle at a first position and adapted to be inserted into the passageway at a second position; and
  - a retainer coupled to the buckle and adapted to engage the strap such that movement in one direction of the strap in the passageway relative to the buckle is inhibited.
2. The assembly of claim 1 wherein the strap is made of at least one of nylon and polypropylene.
3. The assembly of claim 1 wherein the buckle further includes first and second side concave surfaces.
4. The assembly of claim 3 wherein the first and second side concave surfaces include a plurality of ribs.
5. The assembly of claim 1 wherein the strap includes a loop at one end for securing to the buckle.

6. The assembly of claim 1 wherein the strap includes a heat staked end adapted to be inserted into the passageway of the buckle.

7. The assembly of claim 1 and further comprising a separator having first and second apertures adapted to receive the strap.

8. The assembly of claim 1 wherein the retainer includes first and second pointed barbs adapted to engage the strap.

9. The assembly of claim 1 wherein the retainer comprises a serrated blade.

10. The assembly of claim 1 wherein the buckle includes a cavity to contain the retainer and adapted to limit movement of the retainer relative to the buckle.

11. A self-locking strap assembly comprising:  
a buckle having a cavity and a passageway;  
a strap secured to the buckle at a first position and adapted to be inserted to the passageway at a second position; and  
a retainer disposed in the cavity and including a first barb and a second barb adapted to engage the strap such that movement in one

direction of the strap in the passageway relative to the buckle is inhibited.

12. The self-locking strap assembly of claim 11 wherein the strap is made of at least one of nylon and polypropylene.

13. The assembly of claim 11 wherein the buckle further includes first and second side concave surfaces.

14. The self-locking strap assembly of claim 13 wherein the first and second side concave surfaces include a plurality of ribs.

15. The self-locking strap assembly of claim 11 wherein the strap includes a loop at one end for securing to the buckle.

16. The self-locking strap assembly of claim 11 wherein the strap includes a heat staked end adapted to be inserted into the passageway of the buckle.

17. The self-locking strap assembly of claim 11 and further comprising a separator having first and second apertures adapted to receive the strap.

18. The self-locking strap assembly of claim 11 wherein the retainer is pivotally disposed in the cavity.